

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a design support system which can refer to figure element data contained in another design file, when an element ID of figure element data targeted for reference is changed or lost, a CPU retrieves a name allotted to the figure element data by a designer, the figure element data itself, one to which work instruction data matches or one having a high degree of similarity, to specify figure element data targeted for reference in order to provide a design support system which can easily specify a subject to be referenced, improve designing efficiency and enhance overall benefit and convenience.

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